

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

RESHAT ALKAYISI, et al.

Defendants

Crim. No. 21-cr-10208-NMGs

JOINT STATUS REPORT AND
MOTION FOR ORDER OF EXCLUDABLE DELAY

On July 7, 2021, defendants (1) Reshat ALKAYISI, (2) James HOLYOKE, (3) Noah TAVELLA, (4) Brian KELEMAN, (5) Robyn COSTA, (6) Eric DANEAULT, (7) Andre WATSON, (8) Emil DZABIEV, (9) Edison KLOTZ were charged in a five-count indictment charging: Count One: conspiracy to distribute and to possess with intent to distribute 500 grams or more of a mixture and substance containing methamphetamine, in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 846; Count Two: distribution of and possession with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of a mixture and substance containing methamphetamine and aiding and abetting, in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(B)(viii) and 18 U.S.C. § 2; Count Three: distribution and possession with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine, in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(A)(viii); Count Four: possession with intent to distribute 500 grams or more of a mixture and substance containing methamphetamine, in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(A)(viii); Count Five: possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking offense, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 924(c).

On September 1, 2021, the defendants listed above, along with defendants (10) Patrick O'HEARN, and (11) Christina LUA, were charged in a fifteen-count superseding indictment, charging: Count One: conspiracy to distribute and to possess with intent to distribute 500 grams

or more of a mixture and substance containing methamphetamine, in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 846; Counts Two and Four through Seven: distribution and possession with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine, in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(A)(viii); Count Three: distribution and possession with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine and aiding and abetting, in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(A)(viii), and 18 U.S.C. § 2; Count Eight: possession with intent to distribute 500 grams or more of a mixture and substance containing methamphetamine, in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(A)(viii); Counts Nine and Ten: possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking offense, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 924(c); Count Eleven: possession with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of a mixture and substance containing methamphetamine and aiding and abetting, in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(B)(viii); Count Twelve: money laundering conspiracy, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(h); and Counts Thirteen through Fifteen: money laundering, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956. Defendants have either been arraigned or have filed a waiver of arraignment in connection with the superseding indictment.

Defendants (1) ALKAYISI, (2) HOLYOKE, (5) COSTA, (7) WATSON, and (8) DZABIEV have been in custody since their arrests in July 2021. Defendants (3) TAVELLA, (4) KELEMAN, (6) DANEALT, (9) KLOTZ, (10) O'HEARN, and (11) LUA were each released on pre-trial conditions. On May 31, 2022, United States District Judge Nathaniel M. Gorton scheduled a Rule 11 hearing for defendant (2) HOLYOKE. On May 31, 2022, the Court revoked bond and ordered defendant (6) DANEALT detained pending trial. On June 1, 2022, the parties filed an assented-to motion for a Rule 11 hearing for defendant (5) COSTA. Pursuant to Local Rule 116.5(b), the government submits the following joint status report as to defendants (1) ALKAYISI, (3) TAVELLA, (4) KELEMAN, (6) DANEALT, (7) WATSON, (8) DZABIEV,

(9) KLOTZ, (10) O'HEARN, and (11) LUA.

1. Automatic Discovery and Discovery Requests

The government has completed automatic discovery, with the exception of some outstanding drug certifications, which the government will produce upon receipt. The government has responded to discovery requests from defendant (7) WATSON and from defendant (8) DZABIEV. The government has responded to letters requesting additional discovery sent by defendants (1) ALKAYISI and (4) KELEMAN, and is in the process of producing materials responsive to those requests and expects to do so within the next few weeks. Defendants (1) ALKAYISI and (4) KELEMAN have requested that the government identify any cooperating witnesses by name and other identifying information, and the government has declined to do so at this time. The government will provide the identity any cooperating witnesses who it plans to call to testify in its case-in-chief at trial at a reasonable time in advance of trial. No other defendants have made any additional discovery requests at this time.

2. Timing of Additional Discovery

Other than additional drug certifications, the government does not anticipate producing any additional automatic discovery.

3. Timing of Additional Discovery Requests

The defendants are reviewing the discovery and reserve the right to make additional discovery requests.

4. Protective Orders

The Court issued protective orders on July 12, 2021 and August 27, 2021. The government does not anticipate the need for any additional protective orders.

5. Pretrial Motions

The defendants have not filed any pretrial motions under Fed. R. Crim. P. 12(b), and they reserve the right to do so after additional review of the discovery.

6. Timing of Expert Disclosures

The Court has not yet established a date for expert witness disclosures. The government submits that drug analysts and agents will be the only expert witnesses likely to be called by the government. Accordingly, the government submits that expert disclosures 21 days before trial should be sufficient.

7. Defenses

It is too early for the defense to assess this issue.

8. Excludable Delay

Zero days of non-excludable time have accrued.

9. Plea Discussions, Trial

The government has begun plea negotiations with counsel for some of the defendants, however, it is difficult to currently assess the likelihood of trial. At this time, trial is anticipated to last approximately three weeks.

10. Timing of Final Status Conference

The case is currently scheduled for a final status conference on August 2, 2022. As the Court is aware, counsel for defendant (4) KELEMAN has reported difficulties with being able to meet with his client to go over discovery. Counsel for defendant (4) KELEMAN reports that he has been able to meet with his client three times since the last joint status report was filed, however, defendant (4) KELEMAN continues to have significant health problems which makes meeting difficult.

In light of the fact that the government is in the process of responding to requests for additional discovery from defendants (1) ALKAYISI and (4) KELEMAN, and that counsel for multiple defendants request additional time to review discovery, the parties request that the Court continue the final status conference for 60 days.¹ Additionally, the parties hereby move this Honorable Court for an Order designating the period from August 2, 2022 through the date set for the final status conference as excludable delay pursuant to the Speedy Trial Act, 18 U.S.C. §§ 3161(h)(7)(A), on the ground that the ends of justice served in the delay outweigh the best interests of the public and the defendants in a speedy trial.

DATED: July 23, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

RACHAEL S. ROLLINS
United States Attorney

By: /s/ Alathea E. Porter
Alathea E. Porter
Assistant U.S. Attorney

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on July 23, 2022, this document filed through the ECF system will be sent electronically to the registered participants as identified on the Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) and paper copies will be sent to those indicated as non-registered participants.

/s/ Alathea E. Porter
Alathea E. Porter
Assistant U.S. Attorney

¹ As of the filing of this report, despite multiple attempts to confer, the government had not yet connected with counsel for defendant (1) ALKAYISI regarding this joint status report. Based on prior conversations, as well as the outstanding discovery requests, the government understands that defendant (1) ALKAYISI requests additional time to review discovery and to potentially make additional discovery requests.